

***TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 21, 2009***

Present: Selectmen Rosanne Gilbert, Michael Woodworth, and Wes Moore. Others present included: Chief Reed, Brian Knipstein, Clay Mitchell, Natalie Fream, Kelley Corson, Fran Lane, Sue McKinnon, Dave Garvey, and Nancy Spencer.

Call to order: 5:34pm

The meeting went into a non-public session at 5:35pm per RSA 91-A:3 III. At 5:48pm the meeting re-opened to the public.

Chief Reed has gotten the Town Ordinances together for review by the Town Prosecutor. Once the Prosecutor has had time to review them, a meeting will be set up with him, Chief Reed, and the Selectmen to make any needed changes.

The oldest car in the police fleet is ready to be traded in for a new model. This is the best time to make the change while the cruiser has a trade in value. There are enough funds in the revolving trust fund to cover the cost of the new cruiser. The complete cost will be \$25,000. including the cruiser, moving equipment from the old to new cruiser, and painting.

Effective July 1st, 2009, the state contribution to the New Hampshire Retirement Plan has changed. They no longer will make a contribution on any detail wages – the Town has to pay 100% of the retirement contribution. The Chief has raised the cost of police details to cover the additional costs. All detail receipts go into the police cruiser revolving trust fund – no money is transferred to the Town.

The meeting went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II. The meeting re-opened to the public at 6:25pm.

A resident asked to use the Town Hall parking lot for a fundraiser/yard sale and to have the rental fee waived. Although the Selectmen are sympathetic and appreciate the fact that the request is for a good cause, they are unable to waive the rental fee or the insurance requirement.

Michael made a motion to utilize the State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration Form PA-28, Taxpayer Inventory Blank. The motion was not seconded. Rosanne make a motion to **not** use the Taxpayer Inventory Form in 2010. Wes seconded the motion and the motion passed with two in favor and one against.

The history of the sidewalk fund was discussed. It is an expendable trust fund and can be used for the cost to repairs the holes in the sidewalk on Main Street. Extending the sidewalk from the crosswalk at the Elementary School to Meadow Road was discussed. Brian Knipstein was to take on this project with the state. However, Clay Mitchell has been dealing with "Safe Routes to School" which may pay for a new sidewalk in this area in its entirety. Brian and Clay will meet to discuss their options. In the meantime, Brian will obtain pricing to repave the sidewalk from the Newfields Elementary School to the crosswalk at the school. The sidewalk would be widened to five feet to make it ADA compliant. The abutters will be notified if this happens.

Brian advised that the trees blocking the view at Meadow Road and Piscassic Road will be taken down soon.

Deertrees was paved as scheduled. The leftover pavement was used at the fire station to prevent snow melt from flooding a neighboring home.

Nancy Spencer attended an Excel 1 class recently and was very disappointed. The Selectmen asked her to write a letter to the school giving examples of why she was unhappy with the class. The Selectmen will write a cover letter asking for a refund or a credit to attend a replacement class with a different instructor.

The correspondence from the Rockingham Planning Commission was given to Clay for the Planning Board to handle.

The new owner of the Country Store asked one of the Selectmen for the procedure to make some changes at the store. She needs to start with the Building Inspector and possibly the Planning Board.

Clay advised that there is no news from the Planning Board.

He is still working on a Brownsfields Grant to clean up some pollution in town. Brownsfields works directly with the EPA, the Town, and the property owner to clean up the pollution. The EPA does the actual work or subcontracts it. The money does not go to the Town to distribute.

August 4th was chosen as the date to have a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new Dunkin' Donuts. Clay and Dave Garvey will take care of the necessary details.

A foreclosure sale is coming up soon on 16 Swamscott Street property.

Dave Garvey asked Clay Mitchell for relief on his tax bills from the Town. Dave was advised he needs to speak with the Selectmen.

Natalie Fream and Kelley Corson met with the Selectmen to discuss the proposed rental contract between the Town and Main Street Art. Their attorney needs to review the latest contract from the Town's Attorney.

Nancy was asked to contact Primex for an update on the insurance claim for the damage at the old post office building.

Dave Garvey asked if the Town would stop charging him interest on his outstanding tax bills. Dave is in the process of filing an abatement, but would appreciate anything the Town can do to reduce his taxes. The Board denied his request to abate the interest fees.

Dave feels one of the invoices from Civilworks is excessive. Wes will speak with Brian and Clay about the charges.

Dave gave kudos to Brian Knipstein for the excellent road work he did on Winkler Way. He also said that Newfields should be proud to have Brian as the Town's Road Agent.

At 8:30pm the meeting went into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II. The meeting re-opened to the public at 9:30pm.

Checks were signed.

Correspondence to a resident with a delinquent account was signed.

Correspondence from the United States Department of the Interior was reviewed and a copy given to Clay Mitchell.

The New Hampshire Department of Safety sent an update of requesting criminal record checks. A copy will be given to the fire department.

A notice of a Default Budget Workshop was discussed.

Nancy received congratulations from Primex for a great looking UC Quarterly Wage Report and for sending the report in early.

A representative of Aflac left a brochure for the Selectmen to review.

The Newfields Village Water & Sewer District notice of billing changes was reviewed.

Rockingham Nutrition and Meals On Wheels sent a thank you to the Town for our donation.

Citizens Bank notified the Town of changes due to the NACHA Rule Change which take effect on September 18, 2009.

The second quarterly payment to the Newfields Library was reviewed. No check will be sent this quarter as they have overspent their allotment.

An application for a “Minimum Impact Expedited Application” (wetlands permit) was reviewed for a parcel of land on Bald Hill Road.

Michael made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 7, 2009 meeting as written. Wes seconded the motion. The motion passed with both in favor. Rosanne abstained from the vote as she did not attend that meeting.

At 9:55pm Rosanne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Michael seconded the motion and the motion passed with both in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Spencer
Administrative Assistant